

Appl. No. 09/611,920  
Amdt. dated December 7, 2004  
Reply to Office action of September 10, 2004

**Amendments to the Specification:**

**Please replace the paragraph on Page 10, lines 5-12 with the following amended paragraph:**

According to one embodiment of the present invention, the LDAP caching daemon 210 comprises a data cache 230, which is configured to store data that is retrieved from the directory server 110. When the application 120 binds to the caching daemon 210 and sends a data request over the connection 224, a controller ~~245~~225 within the caching daemon 210 determines whether the requested data by the application 120 has been previously stored in the data cache 230. If the requested data has been previously cached, the controller ~~245~~225 retrieves the requested data from the data cache 230 and sends this data to the requesting application 120 in the SIA layer 220 via connections 225.

**Please replace the paragraph on Page 10, lines 14-19 with the following amended paragraph:**

If, however, the requested data has not been previously stored in the data cache 230, then the controller ~~245~~225 sends a request for the data to the directory server 110 via one of the plurality of connections established at 215. Once retrieved, the requested data is stored in the data cache 230 for any subsequent retrieval for a future request by another application 120 for the same data. The controller ~~245~~225 of the caching daemon 210 then forwards the retrieved data from the directory server 110 to the requesting application 120 via the connection 225.